

## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for data exchange, the method comprising:  
identifying a target data receptacle;  
identifying a first source data receptacle;  
5 identifying a second source data receptacle; and  
providing a map, wherein the map includes a relationship between a first  
source element of the first source data receptacle and a first target element of the target  
data receptacle; and wherein the map includes a relationship between a second source  
element of the second source data receptacle and a second element of the target data  
10 receptacle.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the method further comprises:  
designing the target data receptacle, wherein designing the target data  
receptacle includes providing a name for the first target element and providing a name for  
the second target element.
- 15 3. The method of claim 2, wherein designing the target data  
receptacle further includes providing a relationship between the first target element and  
the second target element.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein the target data receptacle is an  
XML file defined by an XML schema.
- 20 5. The method of claim 1, wherein the method further comprises:  
providing a graphical interface, wherein the graphical interface depicts a  
representation of the target receptacle, a representation of the first source receptacle, and a  
representation of the second source receptacle.
6. The method of claim 5, wherein the method further comprises:  
25 receiving an instruction via the graphical interface to map the second  
source element of the second source data receptacle to the second element of the target  
data receptacle.
7. The method of claim 6, wherein the instruction is a first instruction,  
and wherein the method further comprises:  
30 receiving a second instruction via the graphical interface to map the first  
source element of the first source data receptacle to the first element of the target data  
receptacle.

8. The method of claim 5, wherein the map is formed based at least in part on the instruction.

9. The method of claim 1, wherein the method further comprises:  
applying the map, wherein information from the first source data  
5 receptacle is transferred to the target receptacle in accordance with the map, and wherein  
information from the second source data receptacle is transferred to the target receptacle  
in accordance with the map.

10. A system for exchanging data, the system comprising:  
a microprocessor;  
10 a computer readable medium accessible to the microprocessor, wherein the  
computer readable medium includes instructions executable by the microprocessor to:  
receive an indication of a target data receptacle;  
receive an indication of a first source data receptacle;  
receive an indication of a second source data receptacle; and  
15 provide a map, wherein the map includes a relationship between a  
first source element of the first source data receptacle and a first target element of the  
target data receptacle; and wherein the map includes a relationship between a second  
source element of the second source data receptacle and a second element of the target  
data receptacle.

20 11. The system of claim 10, wherein the target data receptacle is an  
XML file defined by an XML schema.

12. The system of claim 10, wherein the computer readable medium  
further includes instructions executable by the microprocessor to:  
provide a graphical interface, wherein the graphical interface depicts a  
25 representation of the target receptacle, a representation of the first source receptacle, and a  
representation of the second source receptacle.

13. The system of claim 12, wherein the computer readable medium  
further includes instructions executable by the microprocessor to:  
receive an instruction via the graphical interface to map the second source  
30 element of the second source data receptacle to the second element of the target data  
receptacle.

14. The system of claim 13, wherein the instruction is a first instruction, and wherein the computer readable medium further includes instructions executable by the microprocessor to:

5 receive a second instruction via the graphical interface to map the first source element of the first source data receptacle to the first element of the target data receptacle.

15. The system of claim 12, wherein the map is formed based at least in part on the instruction.

10 16. The system of claim 10, wherein the computer readable medium further includes instructions executable by the microprocessor to:

receive a design for the target data receptacle, wherein the design for the target data receptacle includes a name for the first target element and a name for the second target element.

15 17. The system of claim 16, wherein the design for the target data receptacle further includes a relationship between the first target element and the second target element.

18. The system of claim 10, wherein the computer readable medium further includes instructions executable by the microprocessor to:

20 apply the map, wherein information from the first source data receptacle is transferred to the target receptacle in accordance with the map, and wherein information from the second source data receptacle is transferred to the target receptacle in accordance with the map.

19. A method for data exchange, the method comprising:

identifying a target data receptacle;

25 identifying a first and a second source data receptacle;

providing a map, wherein the map includes a relationship between a first source element of the first source data receptacle and a first target element of the target data receptacle; and wherein the map includes a relationship between a second source element of the second source data receptacle and a second element of the target data  
30 receptacle; and

providing a graphical interface, wherein the graphical interface depicts a representation of the target receptacle, a representation of the first source receptacle, and a representation of the second source receptacle.

20. The method of claim 19, wherein the method further comprises:  
receiving a first instruction via the graphical interface to map the second  
source element of the second source data receptacle to the second element of the target  
data receptacle; and

5 receiving a second instruction via the graphical interface to map the first  
source element of the first source data receptacle to the first element of the target data  
receptacle.